

## Louisiana town says thanks to VA



The town of Kinder, Louisiana has proclaimed the month of October as Central Arkansas Veterans Health Care System Emergency Medical Response Team Month. Kinder Mayor Estes LeDoux made the proclamation as a way of recognizing the team for its help after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita devastated the area.

The written proclamation

states, "the commitment of the response team to go beyond care and make significant contributions towards healing those in need is a standard of care inherent in the medical profession. The town of Kinder would like to recognize [medical center] director Timothy Shea, Dr. Robert Harrell, Carla House-Johnson, Pam Bellomy, Brent Higdem, Pat Roland, Jimmy Dillie, Gertie Mason, Jerri Fowler, Earnest Campbell, and Brian House for all of their outstanding work during this trying time."

The mayor encouraged everyone in the town to recognize the many services provided by this medical response team and the tremendous contribution the team makes every day to the health of the town's residents.

## New Orleans VA employees who have made no contact with VA

The percentage of New Orleans VA employees who have contacted the VA after Hurricane Katrina is now at 99 percent. The following is a list of employees who have not yet made contact. If you know the whereabouts of any of these New Orleans VA employees, please have them call 1-888-766-2474.

Bowles, Jennifer L  
Coleman, Theone Y  
Dixon, Hubert  
Epps, Joseph M  
Everett, Kenneth L  
Ge, Lin-Jun  
Hunter, George  
Mansion, Avannette D  
Martin, Jerome H  
Owens, Larry D  
Ricciardi, James E

Robertson, Kathleen A  
Sakauye, Kenneth M  
Sam, Charles J Jr  
Sanders, Debra  
Sieversten, Erik E  
Smith, Charlene M  
Spencer, Sharon L  
Sylvester, Barry S  
Walker, Philpatrick D  
Washington, Lionel

## Informational call scheduled for New Orleans VA employees

New Orleans VAMC employee information conference call with John D. Church, Jr., medical center director, will be held Thursday, October 20, at 2 p.m. CST.

Mr. Church will discuss issues of concern with New Orleans employees. In order to answer questions that are of most concern to all employees within the time limit of the call, employees are asked to submit questions prior to the call to Eileen Angelico at [eileen.angelico@med.va.gov](mailto:eileen.angelico@med.va.gov) or (601) 420-1984, ext 5006.

Each facility's point of contact will arrange for a room where the conference call can be heard.

## Authorized Absence extended for some

Authorized Absence has been extended for VISN 16 employees who have reported for work, but have not yet been assigned to temporary duties. The extension will expire on October 29, 2005.

## Reminder for rental car users

Please remember to fill the fuel tank on the rental car with gasoline before returning the car.

## New contact info for New Orleans VA

The New Orleans VA administrative staff has moved to a new location in the Jackson area. The new telephone number is 601-420-1984.

### About After the Storm

The *After the Storm* newsletter is a publication produced by the South Central VA Health Care Network in an effort to supply updated information to those affected by Hurricane Katrina as we continue to recover from this devastating storm.

This newsletter will be published on a recurring basis. For more information about the publication or to provide story ideas or information, call April Smith, writer/editor, VISN 16, at 601-364-7902.

South Central VA Health Care Network  
1600 E. Woodrow Wilson Drive  
Third Floor, Suite A  
Jackson, MS 39216  
Phone: 601-364-7900  
Fax: 601-364-7996

**Network Director**  
Robert Lynch, M.D.

**Deputy Network Director**  
Rica Lewis-Payton, MSHA, CHE

**Public Affairs Officer**  
Mario Rossilli

**Editor**  
April Smith